

GRANTS FOR LOCAL STEM
EDUCATION**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) and California State University, Fullerton (CSUF), who have been selected as recipients of the Hispanic-Serving Institutions STEM and Articulation Programs Grant.

This highly competitive award will give each school approximately \$1,200,000 in funding for the next five years and will help them to develop and expand their capacity to serve Hispanic and other low-income students.

I believe STEM education is fundamental to prepare our children for jobs in a more technology-oriented economy.

This is vital for our nation's economic security, and I am proud to have supported legislation that made this grant opportunity possible.

As a longtime advocate of STEM education, I am thrilled to see that students in my district, especially those most in need, will have the opportunity to excel in mathematics and the sciences.

This will make way for a competitive workforce that will increase minority participation in the STEM fields and lay the groundwork for a nation filled with educated and diverse individuals.

I congratulate Rancho Santiago Community College District and California State University, Fullerton for receiving such impressive grants.

THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
WAR IN AFGHANISTAN**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, the war in Afghanistan will mark its 10 year anniversary this coming Friday. After 10 years, it is clear money is being wasted on military spending and wars that aren't making us safer, and are doing nothing for ordinary people in Afghanistan and Pakistan and beyond. It's working people in Michigan, and throughout the rest of the country, who understand that—but unfortunately not enough of my colleagues in Congress.

Sometimes it's only outside of Washington, DC, that the fundamental common sense of Americans shows up. This year the National Conference of Mayors passed a powerful resolution calling on the U.S. government to end the war in Afghanistan and to "bring the war money home." It was the first time since the height of the Vietnam War, in 1971, that the Mayors took a clear anti-war position. The mayors understand that the money is there, but it's being diverted—away from jobs, away from the crucial investments in people that keep our workers employed, our children healthy, and our elders safe.

Americans get it—64 percent of Americans already say that the war in Afghanistan is just not worth fighting. But it sure seems like no one is listening. Because just this year, tax-

payers in my congressional district are paying about \$172 million just for our share of the war in Afghanistan. That war isn't doing anything to make us safer—the CIA and all the rest of the intelligence agencies admit there are only 50 or 100 al-Qaeda members even left in Afghanistan. But the numbers of civilian casualties are higher than they've been since this war began ten years ago.

And that 172 million in tax dollars? If we weren't wasting it on a failing war in Afghanistan we could use that money for something that really might help keep us safe—like hiring 3,275 firefighters for a year. We could retrofit 53,807 houses in my district to provide renewable electricity. Those war dollars could cover health care for 22,447 of our brave veterans, so many of whom are coming home from the wars with devastating physical and emotional injuries. Any of those things would keep us safer than wars that create more terrorists with every civilian casualty.

We can't afford to keep fighting counterproductive wars. The wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and Pakistan are not keeping us safe. It's time to end them; it's time to spend the money we need to bring our troops safely and quickly home. We have too much to rebuild in our cities and across our country, to waste our hard-earned tax dollars. Americans get it. After 10 years, it's time to bring our troops, and our war dollars home.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATROLMAN
FRANK PAPAIAUNNI**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of Patrolman Frank Papaiaunni of Edison, New Jersey. On September 16, 1971, Patrolman Papaiaunni and his partner responded to a silent holdup alarm at a bank located within the Menlo Park Mall in Edison, New Jersey. The gunfire exchanged fatally wounded Patrolman Papaiaunni and critically wounded his partner. Today, members of the Edison community gather to remember and honor the life of Patrolman Frank Papaiaunni.

Patrolman Frank Papaiaunni was a noble officer who faithfully protected and served the local residents, businesses and visitors of Edison, New Jersey. Patrolman Papaiaunni served with the Edison Division of Police for three years and continued to personify his commitment and dedication to maintaining a safe and peaceful environment. He was survived by his wife Adeline and his three children, Maria, Joann and Frank. Lake Papaiaunni in Edison, New Jersey is named in honor of the late Patrolman.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in commemorating the life of Patrolman Frank Papaiaunni and remembering him for his dedication to serve and protect the Township of Edison.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIRNESS
IN THE AMERICAN TAX CODE
ACT OF 2011**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Fairness in the American Tax Code Act of 2011."

During these difficult economic times, the wealthiest of Americans should be paying their fair share in taxes. Our nation's unemployment rate is over nine percent and yet, we have the lowest tax rates in decades. Why are we giving tax breaks to Wall Street CEOs and Big Oil Executives, instead of helping the millions of Americans who are struggling.

Thanks to loopholes in the tax code, M. Speaker, the rich keep getting richer. The top one percent of earners are responsible for 20 percent of the nation's annual income, up from 10 percent in 1981. The wealthiest CEOs are paid 400 times what the average worker earns. Only 30 years ago, it was 20 times as much.

Since President Ronald Reagan started lowering tax rates up until President George W. Bush slashed capital gains and income tax rates for the wealthy to their current historic lows, the wealthy have continued to pay less and less in taxes. As I travel throughout my district, into areas where the unemployment rate is over 40 percent, I ask myself where are the jobs and where did all the money go?

Americans in the highest tax bracket are supposed to pay 35 percent of their income in taxes. However, since President Bush slashed the capital gains rate to 15 percent, the top 400 wealthiest Americans, for example, pay only 15 percent in taxes on 80 percent of their income. As the law is currently written, any wealthy American paying the full 35 percent needs to get a new accountant.

My bill simply asks the wealthiest to pay their fair share. It produces a progressive "job creation" surtax for those making more than \$350,000. The surtax increases gradually until those with incomes over \$10 million are paying the same amount on all their income as the legally required statutory rate. M. Speaker, it is time for the wealthiest of Americans to pay their fair share in taxes.

An editorial in the New York Times recently noted: "Critics also claim that raising the capital gains rate would hamstring investment. But economists studying the historical record have concluded that the effect is small, dwarfed by considerations like profit growth. The truth is that despite the current low tax rates, American businesses—small and big—are investing very little. Business surveys show that the main reason is that there are very few customers with money to buy their products."

The wealthiest Americans have rigged the tax system in their favor to the detriment of the middle class. They've changed the rules to their own financial advantage. My bill will make our nation's tax code fairer.

Mr. Speaker, investing in America is the only way that we are going to create jobs. The Fairness in the American Tax Code Act of 2011 ensures the investments made for strictly personal gains are investments that will actually create jobs in America. I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join me

in supporting this critically important piece of legislation that will help to put our nation's economy back on track.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,856,859,498,405.73.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$ 4,218,433,752,111.93 since then. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

A CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARGARET "PEG" ARNOLD ON HER INDUCTION INTO THE GREENE COUNTY WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Mr. AUSTRIA. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District, I rise today to recognize Ms. Margaret Arnold for her induction into the Greene County Women's Hall of Fame.

Ms. Arnold along with five other candidates was selected from a pool of many worthy women to receive this honor, and thus, she was nominated for her great endeavors in the fields of Public Education and Government.

Ms. Arnold was elected to the Beavercreek Board of Education in 2000 and is still an active on the board. Under her leadership the district passed an \$80 million dollar bond issue to build two new buildings in an effort to serve the rapidly growing population of the community. This was the first new school construction in 40 years. While it did take three attempts to gain the support of voters on the issue, she kept fighting for it until the plan was passed. She continues to play a key role to make sure the 2010 strategic plan is implemented properly. Further, Peg was awarded the Educator of the Year award by the Beavercreek Chamber of Commerce. At the same time, Peg is a certified level three acquisition professional and has been a highly successful and valued government employee at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base for over 30 years, in the contracting field. In 1994, Peg was named one of the top 100 Federal Government Employees by Federal Computer Magazine.

Thus, with great pride, I congratulate Ms. Margaret Arnold and wish her well in her service to the community.

HONORING KENT ELWOOD EDSSELL

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my constituent, Kent Elwood Edsell, on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Kent Elwood Edsell was born in Bradford County, Pennsylvania on October 22, 1931. In 1950, Mr. Edsell graduated from LeRaysville High School and began working at DuPont in Towanda, Pennsylvania before entering the United States Marine Corps in 1951. After the Korean War, Kent was honorably discharged and began working for Jug Gerald. He then relocated to Nichols, New York, working for the Grange League Federation until he retired in 1992.

Mr. Edsell recently celebrated his 55th wedding anniversary with Catherine (nee Riley), whom he married on August 19, 1956 at the Saint Thomas Catholic Church of Little Meadows, Pennsylvania. Kent is the proud father of six (Larry, Barbara, Kevin, Andrew, Theresa, and Joel), grandfather of 14, and great grandfather of five.

A long-time baseball enthusiast and Yankee fan, Kent played baseball with North Orwell and the Tri-County League through the 1980s. In addition to his love of bowling, wood working, and hunting, Mr. Edsell is a long-time member of VFW Post 6824, having held a number of positions over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Kent Elwood Edsell, on the occasion of his 80th birthday, and ask my colleagues to join in praising his commitment to his family and country.

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH—BOLIVAR, MISSOURI

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate the First Assembly of God Church in Bolivar, Missouri, on their 75th anniversary. I am honored to join them in their momentous milestone of celebrating 75 years of blessings.

In 1936, a small congregation in Bolivar, Missouri, received their official church charter from the Assemblies of God fellowship. Over the course of the last 75 years, First Assembly of God of Bolivar has served others with excellence, unity, and purpose.

First Assembly is a family-oriented, multi-generational church. They serve families and individuals through a variety of services and activities for all age groups, genders, and backgrounds. First Assembly believes that God makes His presence known in a variety of ways, and the church looks to Him to guide them in everything they do.

First Assembly is committed to the spiritual needs of the Bolivar community and provides

their congregation the necessary tools to live a Christian lifestyle in an ever-changing world. By demonstrating the compassion of Jesus Christ, First Assembly of God reaches out to people of all backgrounds in Southwest Missouri to deliver their ministry of love.

The church also sponsors missionaries across the world, sending out members to spread the love and compassion of Jesus Christ. They have donated over \$30,000 to purchase an African Tabernacle, vehicles, equipment, and study Bibles for international ministers.

It is clear that First Assembly has performed many great services and received many blessings over the past 75 years. I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating First Assembly of God for their exceptional service and wish them the best for another 75 years of blessings.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN)

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, October 10th marks the 100th anniversary of China's Wuchang Uprising which led to the creation of the Republic of China, ROC, that now exists on Taiwan. The uprising marked the end of the Qing Dynasty in what is now the ROC, effectively ending 2,000 years of imperial rule and resulting in East Asia's now-oldest republic.

It is worthy of note that the Republic of China was born at a time when many repressive and colonial regimes ruled much of East Asia.

Its founding father, Sun Yat-sen, had hoped the ROC would one day develop into a fully democratic society modeled on many of the same principles and norms that he had observed while an adolescent in Hawaii. And though it came to pass well after he left this world, and on a different land mass, his dreams of representative democracy are an undeniable reality on Taiwan today.

The ROC's emulation of American principles and ideals has not been limited to the political arena. Time after time, whether it be in the struggle against fascism, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, or joining us in calling for the removal of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein in 2003, the ROC—be it housed on mainland China, or Taiwan—has stood shoulder to shoulder with the United States to defend and promote the very values and ideals that inspired Dr. Sun to create the ROC in the first place.

In recognition of all of the foregoing, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Republic of China on Taiwan on its 100th anniversary, while also acknowledging its Founding Fathers' foresight and—most of all—thanking the government and the people of Taiwan for their loyalty, friendship and support for an entire century.